

	<p>School of Arts & Science</p> <p>SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT</p> <p>ANTH 290</p> <p>Special Topics in Anthropology</p> <p>Anthropology of Monsters</p> <p>Fall 2016</p>
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COURSE OUTLINE

Using an anthropological approach, this course will explore monsters, from around the world, past and present, and why they are so ubiquitous in people's imaginations. The examination of monsters allows us to learn about societal fears and hopes, social tensions, social control, and power. Students will be introduced to the main approaches to the study of monsters and the monstrous within anthropology, and apply these approaches to well-known monstrous being such as vampires, zombies, windigo, aswang, and more. We will examine the commonalities as well as the differences in monsters from around the world, and apply the anthropological understanding of monsters to popular culture.

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Tara Tudor		
(b)	Office Hours:	Monday 10:00-11:00, Wednesday 10:00-11:00, or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Young 212A		
(d)	Phone:	250-370-3375		
(e)	Email:	tudor@camosun.ca		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

1. Explain the main theoretical approaches to the study of monsters;
2. Describe the common features of monsters from around the world
3. Illustrate cross-cultural variation of monsters
4. Explicate the cultural construction of monsters
5. Define myth, and demonstrate its function and structure
6. Apply anthropological knowledge to popular representations of monsters
7. Write about complex topics in an academic style
8. Perform verbal presentations about topics related to the course in a clear and articulate manner

3. Course Schedule

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Readings
Week 1: Sept 5 & 7	No Class – Labour Day	Introduction to Course; Monster Anthropology	No readings
Week 2: Sept 12 & 14	How to Approach Monsters	Religion, Myth & Ritual	Bowie – Myth and Stymeist – Myth and the Monster Cinema
Week 3: Sept 19 & 21	Religion, Myth and Ritual Discussion of Stymeist article	Windigo & the Environment	Carlson – Reviving Witiko
Week 4: Sept 26 & 28	Windigo and the Environment Article response & discussion - Carlson	Vampires – Origins & History	Barber – How Revenants Come into Existence
Week 5: Oct 3 & 5	Vampires & Colonialism	Ancient Greeks, Giant Fossils Article response & discussion - Smith	Smith – “A Special Danger” and Mayor – The Gold-Guarding Griffin
Week 6: Oct 10 & 12	No Class - Thanksgiving	Review for midterm & group work	
Week 7: Oct 17 & 19	Midterm Exam	Yokai & Modernization	
Week 8: Oct 24 & 26	Yokai & Modernization	Group work	Foster – Early Modern Past
Week 9: Oct 31 & Nov 2	Poster Presentations	Pishtaco & Race	Oliver-Smith- The Pishtaco
Week 10: Nov 7 & 9	Pishtaco and Race Article response & discussion	Monsters of the Philippines , & Social Control	The Serpent & the Rainbow Part I
Week 11: Nov 14 & 16	Documentary: The Aswang Phenomena	The Ways & Nature of the Zombie	The Serpent & the Rainbow Part II
Week 12: Nov 21 & 23	Haitian Zombies & Voodoo Origins	Critique of Davis & Other Models Book response & discussion	The Serpent & the Rainbow Part III
Week 13: Nov 28 & 30	Zombies, Popular Culture & Anxiety	Zombie Movie	Dendle – The Zombie as Barometer of Cultural Anxiety
Week 14:	Continue Zombie Movie	Review for Final Exam	No Reading

Dec 5 & 7	Article response and discussion – Dendle		
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4. Basis of Student Assessment

(a) Assignments (45%)

Assignment One: Article Response Papers (5% X 4 = 20%)

Students will write four 2 page papers based on articles or books used in class. These papers will respond to questions assigned by the instructor and will have set deadlines. Students will be given the choice of four out of five assigned readings on which to write their papers. More information about this assignment is available on D2L.

Assignment Two: Visual Research Project (25%)

Working in groups three, students will choose a monster we have NOT discussed in class and create a poster or video for public viewing on October 31st in the Fisher Foyer. Each group will select three dramatic pieces (films, tv shows, games, graphic novels) in which the monster appears. The group will write a summary (500 -750 words per piece) about these products which include a description of the fragments of the monster that change from product to product, as well as an explanation for why these changes occurred. Each group will also collect substantial visual imagery of these monsters from the correct periods, visually contrasting them against one another to showcase the changes in the genealogy of the monster. This research will be developed into a poster or video for presentation on October 31st. Monster related costumes encouraged; it is Halloween after all! More information about this assignment is available on D2L.

Please note that it is mandatory for students to attend the two class periods set aside for group work. Failure to attend these two classes will result in a zero for this assignment.

(b) Exams (55%)

Exams are comprised of definitions, short and long answer questions. The final exam is not cumulative with the exception of core concepts and theoretical approaches which are relevant throughout the course. Exams must be written during the scheduled times unless a physician's medical certificate is presented to the instructor. There will be no exceptions without a medical certificate. Students will not be permitted to write an additional make-up exam in order to improve a grade. The final exam will be written during the scheduled exam period after the last week of classes in December. Do not make holiday travel plans until the exam timetable is posted.

Dates for the exams are as follows:

Mid-Term (25%): October 17th

Final Exam (30%): Scheduled during the final exam period

5. Required Material

There is no textbook for this course. Students are required to purchase one book, available at the Camosun bookstore. The articles are available on D2L.

Books

Davis, W. (1985). *The Serpent and the Rainbow*. New York, NY : Simon & Schuster.

Articles (Available through D2L)

Barber, P. (1988). How Revenants Come into Existence. In *Vampires, Burial, and Death : Folklore and Reality*. New Haven, Conn: Yale University Press.

Bowie, F. (2006). Myth. In *The Anthropology of Religion: An Introduction* (pp. 267-299). Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing.

Carlson, N. D. (2009). Reviving Witiko (Windigo): An Ethnohistory of "Cannibal Monsters" in the Athabasca District of Northern Alberta, 1878-1910. *Ethnohistory*, 56(3), 355-394.

Dendle, P (2007). The Zombie as Barometer of Cultural Anxiety. In *Monster and Monstrous: Myth and Metaphor of Enduring Evil*. Amsterdam: Rodopi.

Foster, M. D. (2012). Early Modern Past to Postmodern Future; Changing Discourses of Japanese Monsters. In A. S. Mittman (Ed.) *The Ashgate Research Companion to Monsters and the Monstrous*. Burlington, Vermont: Ashgate Publishing.

Mayor, A. (2001). The Gold-Guarding Griffin. In *The First Fossil Hunters: Paleontology in Greek and Roman Times* (pp. 16-53). Princeton: Princeton University Press

Oliver-Smith, A. (1969). The Pishtaco: Institutionalized Fear in Highland Peru. *The Journal of American Folklore* (326). 363.

Stymeist, D. H. (2009). Myth and the Monster Cinema. *Anthropologica*, (2). 395.

White, L. (2000). "A special Danger": Gender, Property, and Blood in Nairobi, 1919-1939. In *Speaking with the Vampires: Rumor and History in Colonial Africa*. University of California Press.

6. Detailed Course Schedule

*** Please note that the key concepts are from the lecture material only. Additional key concepts will be introduced through the ethnography and articles.

Week 1 – Monster Anthropology

Topics

- Anthropology
- Culture
- Monsters

Key Concepts

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anthropology• Cultural anthropology• Biological anthropology• Linguistic anthropology• Archaeology• Ethnology• Composites | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ethnography• Emic• Culture• Cultural construction• Monster |
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Week 2 – How to Approach Monsters; Myth and Ritual

Topics

- Theoretical approaches
- Religion, myth and ritual

Key Concepts

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Postmodernism• Invasion literature | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Religion• Myth |
|---|---|

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marxism • Cultural materialism • Symbolic anthropology • Symbol • Taboo • Evolutionary anthropology • Psychic apparatus • Projection • Collective unconscious • Archetypes • Monomyth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ritual • Functionalism • Malinowski • Power • Cultural hegemony • Structuralism • Levi-Strauss • Langue/parole • Paradigmatic/syntagmatic • Diachronic/synchronic • Metaphor/metonym
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Required Readings

- Bowie - Myth
- Stymest – Myth and the Monster Cinema

Week 3 – Witiko

Topics

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Witiko • Algonquian cosmology • Cannibalism

Key Concepts

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indigenous anthropology • Witiko • Algonquian linguistic group • Animism • Manitou • Shamanism • Starvation cannibalism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural materialism • Functionalism • Performance • Culture-bound disorder
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Required Reading

- Carlson – Reviving Witiko

Week 4 – Vampires

Topics

- Forensic anthropology
- Archaeology
- Mortuary practices
- Life
- Death
- Epidemics

Key Concepts

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revenant• Mortuary practices• Apotropaic grave goods• Epidermolysis• Liminality | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Purge fluid• Pellagra• Rabies |
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Required Reading

Barber – How Revenants Come into Existence

Week 5 – Vampires & Colonialism and Ancient Greeks, Giant Fossils

Topics

- Colonialism
- Vampires
- Structural Violence
- Gender
- Paleontology
- Ancient Greece
- Giant Fossils

Key Concepts

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colonialism• Gender• Wazimamoto• Witchcraft	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paleontology• Geomythology• Bestiary• Samotherium• Miocene• Protoceratops• Scythians
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Required Readings

- White – “A Special Danger”: Gender, Property and Blood in Nairobi, 1919-1939
- Mayor – The Gold Guarding Griffin

Week 6 –

Monday – Thanksgiving - No Class

Wednesday - Group work (mandatory!)

Week 7 – Midterm exam

Monday - Midterm Exam

Wednesday - Yokai

Week 8 - Yokai

Topics

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yokai• Modernization• Time-space compression
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Key Concepts

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shinto• Polytheistic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Yokaigaku• Yokai karuta
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syncretism • Yokai • Edo period • Neo-Confusionism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanuki • Modernization • Kuchisake Onna
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Required Reading

Foster – Early Modern Past

Week 9 – Poster Presentations and Race, Ethnicity & Pishtaco

Monday – Poster Presentations

Topics

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race • Identity • Andean culture • Pishtaco
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Key Concepts

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Race • Andean culture • <i>Encomienda</i> • <i>Hacienda</i> • Pishtaco • Mestizo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whiteness • <i>Sutiyana</i> • <i>Chucha</i> • Reciprocity
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Required Reading

- Oliver-Smith – The Pishtaco

Week 10 – Monsters of the Philippines and Social Control

Topics

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filipino monsters • Aswang

Key Concepts

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Migration• Social Control• Syncretism• Duwende• Kapre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tikbalang• Aswang• Manananggal• Visayan society
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Week 11 – The Ways and Nature of the Zombie

Topics

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Origin of zombies• Nature of zombies• History of Haiti• Vodou
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Key Concepts

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zombie cadaver• Datura stramonium• Zombie astral• Vodou• Loa• Anthropomorphic• Rada & Pedro	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Houngan• Mambo• Bokor• Hounfor• Peristyle• Spirit possession• Lakou
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Required Reading

Davis – The Serpent and the Rainbow

Week 12 and Week 13 – Haitian Zombies and Zombies and Popular Culture

Topics

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Zombies and popular culture

- The zombie film
- Cultural anxiety
- Xenophobia

Key Concepts

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|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voodoo zombie • The zombie film • <i>Unheimliche</i> • Splatstick • Zombie renaissance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infection metaphor • Xenophobia |
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Required Reading

Dendle – The Zombie as Barometer of Cultural Anxiety

Week 14 – Zombies cont...

7. Instructional Policies

7.1 Late Penalty

All assignments must be completed and submitted on the date assigned. All late written work will be penalized **1 mark** per day late unless an extension is legitimately warranted and approved by the instructor well in advance of the assignment due date. Assignments will not be accepted beyond one week of their due date.

7.2 Written Assignments

All assignments must be handed into me at the beginning of class. If submitting an assignment as required is not possible due to illness please contact me *immediately* to make alternative arrangements. I do not accept emailed assignments. All assignments must be typewritten, double-spaced, pages numbered and properly cited and referenced using APA referencing format.

7.3 Mark/Grade Challenges and Appeals

A student wishing to question a mark assigned by the instructor on any course evaluation component must clearly articulate in writing the specific element of the assignment being questioned as well as a reason supporting a change in the mark. The Student Appeals Procedure can be found in the college calendar.

7.4 Student Responsibility

It is each student's responsibility to familiarize her/himself with course and college policies. Students experiencing difficulties during the term are encouraged to talk to the instructor at the earliest

opportunity.

8. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

9. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

It is recommended that for written assignments students use the writing centre and consult the Social Science Research Manual (available for purchase in the Camosun College bookstore and on reserve in the library).

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College Calendar, Registrar's Office or the College web site at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca>

ACADEMIC CONDUCT POLICY

There is an Academic Conduct Policy. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with the content of this policy. The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.

www.camosun.bc.ca/divisions/pres/policy/2-education/2-8